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Coroners for Louisa County. Robert Lewis, Richard Johnson, Charles Barret.

for King George. John Champ & Jonathan Sydnaham.

King William. ——— Quarls.

York. Thomas Cobb, Edmund Smith, notice to ye Cl.

Ordered. That a New Commission Issue for the County of Fairfax and that the following p'sons be Added. Jerem'h Bronaugh to be placed above Rich'd Osborn, Strike out Edward Boney And put in Edw'd Barry in his place. Stephen Lewis, Daniel ffrench the Younger Townshend Dude & Amos Sinclair.

Ordered. That a New Com. Issue for Westmorland County, And that Daniel McCarty be Added, and to be put in his former place next to Wm. Aylet.

Petitions for Land Granted.

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(TO BE CONTINUED)

## VIRGINIA IN 1626-27.

(Abstracts by W. N. SAINSBURY, and copies in the McDonald and De Jarnette Papers, Virginia State Library.)

(CONTINUED)

### PETITION OF THOMAS POWELL.

(Abstract.)

July 21, 1626.

Petition of Thomas Powell<sup>1</sup> in behalf of himself and his poor

<sup>1</sup> Captain Nathaniel Powell came to Virginia in the first ships in 1607, was one of the writers from whom Smith compiled part of the "General History," was member of the Council 1619-22, and deputy governor for a short time in 1619. He married a daughter of William Tracy, and with his wife was killed in the Massacre of 1622.

William Powell was a member of the Virginia Company and came to Virginia in 1611. He was a member of the first House of Burgesses in 1619, and is believed by Mr. Brown to have been killed by the Indians in 1623.

brothers and sisters to the Privy Council—That whereas Capt. Nathaniel Powell died about three years (since) seized of lands in Virginia to a good value, whereupon, pet'r being the elder brother, took out letters of administration in London—that the Gov. and Council of Virginia have certified that one Wm. Powell, no way of kin to the deceased, had before administ'red to said estate—That said Wm. Powell being since dead & said estate come to the hands of one Mr. Blany that married the relict of Wm. Powell, the late Comm'rs for Virginia by letter of 3 Nov. 1624 desired the Gov'r and Council there to examine the cause—but the ships for Virginia having departed hence before said letter was obtained & the sickness immediately after spreading thro' the City of London pet'rs had no means of sending it—Said Commiss'rs being dissolved pray their Lordships to renew the like letter in pet'rs behalf.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 12.)

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EXAMINATIONS OF JOHN PREEN, THOMAS WILLOUGHBY, &C.

(Abstract.)

(Inclosure)

July 6, 7, 1626.

Examinations of John Preen of London, Merchant aged 36. Thomas Willoughby<sup>1</sup> of Rochester aged 27 and John Pollington<sup>2</sup> of London, Merchant, aged 33. That the only intent of their voyage to Virginia is to carry passengers, goods and munition for the plantation there.

Certified copy, 2 pp.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 13, I.)

[On a separate slip, pasted in with this page.]

This page placed by Mr. Sainsbury after page dated 1621, apparently because connected with a paper of a later date & I have followed his arrangement.

McD.

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<sup>1</sup>See this Magazine, I, 448.

<sup>2</sup>John Pollington, or Polentine as it is sometimes written, was a member for the "City of Henricus," in the first House of Burgesses, 1619. He was living at Worrosquoiack in 1623, and owned 600 acres there in 1626. He was also a member of the House in March, 1623-4.

## PETITION OF JOHN PREEN.

(Abstract.)

July ? 1626.

Petition of John Preen of London, Merchant, to the Privy Council. That whereas the plantation of Virginia is for the present merely supported by private and voluntary Adventurers and the pet'r for transportation of people, arms, munition, apparel, tools, victuals and other necessities is now directly bound thither in person in the Peter and John of London of 220 tons and 18 pieces of ordnance—Prays for a warrant to protect himself, his people, ship &c. from being employed in any other service.  
(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 13.)

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## NOTE OF PAPERS TO BE SIGNED BY THE KING.

Aug. 21, 1626.

Note of Papers to be signed by the King: amongst them a Warrant to Sir Francis Wyatt late Governor in Virginia of liberty to import 10,000 weight of tobacco custom free.

(Extract from *Domestic Corresp.* Charles I, Vol. 34, No. 15.)

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## PETITION OF JOHN PREEN.

(Abstract.)

Sept. ? 1626.

Petition of John Preen, Captain of the Peter & John bound for Virginia to the Privy Council. That he has lately received a Commission to carry letters of importance from their Lordships to the Governor there and likewise ten barrels of powder for the defence of the Plantation and 110 passengers with their goods and other necessary provisions for the planters. That in the great scarcity of powder, none is to be had in the City for any money—Prays to be allowed to purchase fifteen barrels of powder out of his Maj. store for defence of his ship.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 14.)

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## ORDER IN REGARD TO POWDER.

(Abstract.)

Sept. 15, 1626.

Warrant from the Privy Council to the Earl of Totnes To

deliver to Captain Preen who is bound to Virginia & carries with him directions & provisions for the plantation there, fifteen barrels of powder out of his Maj. store, he paying ready money for the same.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 15.)

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PROCLAMATION TOUCHING TOBACCO.

(Abstract.)

Whitehall, Feb. 17, 1627.

Proclamation touching Tobacco.

Confirming previous proclamations of 29 Sept. 1624 and 2 March 1625 prohibiting the importation and use of all tobacco not of the growth of Virginia and the Somers Islands but because of the immoderate desire of taking tobacco which "prevailed throughout the Kingdom and the difference or at least the opinion of difference" between Spanish or Foreign tobacco and that of the plantations of Virginia—allowing the importation of 50,000 (lbs.) weight per annum of the former to the Kings "own particular use."

Printed 3 pp. (*Proclamations Charles I*, No. 61.)

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ANSWER OF THE PLANTERS AND ADVENTURERS OF VIRGINIA  
AND THE SOMERS ISLANDS.

(Abstract.)

April 7, 1627.

Answer of the Planters and Adventurers of Virginia and the Company of Somers Islands.

Being called together at Sir John Wolstenholme's house where the order of Lords of the Privy Council was declared unto them, both for the quantity (of tobacco) that they should bring into England & also for the price that the King will give them, their approbations and consents were required. Both which with one joint and full consent were refused, alleging the quantity and price not to be sufficient to maintain so many people as were in both those plantations. The King's pleasure signified too late, & after the Ships arrived here—if this offer had been tendered unto them sooner (as being an offer too much under value to be accepted of) they would have disposed of their ships for Holland

and Ireland, where they should have had better prices and better markets than in England. Desire that if the King will not give them a valuable price, that they might freely carry their tobacco away without paying any duties.

1½ pp. (*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 20.)

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PETITION OF JOHN PREEN.

(Abstract.)

May ? 1627.

Petition of John Preen, Captain of the Samuel of Newcastle and of a Pinnace, the Endeavour of London, now bound to Virginia, to the Lords of the Privy Council—Whereas he is now presently to transport both people and provisions for strengthening the Plantation, prays for a commission for government of all passengers, mariners and sailors during the voyage as their Lordships vouchsafed him about twelve months ago.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 25.)

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PROCLAMATION IN REGARD TO TOBACCO.

(Abstract.)

Windsor, Aug. 9, 1627.

Proclamation for the ordering of tobacco.—The growth of tobacco in England and the importation of Spanish tobacco are strictly prohibited without the King's special commission—No tobacco of the growth of Virginia, the Somers Islands or any other English Colony shall be imported without license under the Great Seal and when imported shall be sold to Royal Commiss'rs appointed in that behalf, from whom only tobacco may be brought.

Printed 2 pp. (*Proclamations Charles I*, No. 68.)

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THE KING TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA.

(Abstract.)

Nov. ? 1627.

The King to the Governor and Council of Virginia—Our care for the welfare of our Colony in Virginia and of our people who have transplanted themselves thither doth much trouble us when we call to mind how many years are now spent since it began to

be first planted and how little account can be given of any solid or substantial commodities which in all this time have been raised there, but to our dishonour and the shame (of) our people, it is and may be truly said that this Plantation is wholly built upon smoke, tobacco being the only means it hath produced, and that so easy to be turned into air, if either Spanish tobacco or the tobacco of England should be admitted by us, as we cannot but wonder that the planters or adventurers will put any confidence therein.

These considerations have moved us not only to recommend unto you but to command you to take especial care of these things which are probable to be of moment if with industry they shall be followed. First the making of pitch and tar of which you have plentiful means by the multitude of Pine trees in those parts. 2. The making of soap ashes & pot ashes to supply us here; of pipe staves barrel board and clapboard; of iron; searching & trying for rich mines, planting of vines; and making of Bay salt. The Bearer William Capps is appointed to confer with them about those things, to whom is committed specially the salt to make a full experiment thereof—to send “a convenient quantity of all sorts” for better information of the value of the mines that his Maj. may have them exactly tried—For tobacco, our desire is, not that it should be abandoned but be well ordered and the quantity moderated, and our desire is to take it into our hands as our own merchandise and to give such a price for it as all the planters will hold to be reasonable viz: 3s. per lb. delivered at the Port of London—They are to advertise the King of all those particulars by the next ships: & to assist Wm. Capps who having had long experience in Virginia, industrious & of good ability to do the King service, is to be sworn a councillor.

2 pp. Certified copy by Robt. Barrington, Cler.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 32.)

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ATTORNEY GENERAL HEATH TO GOVERNOR YEARDLEY.

(Abstract.)

Nov. ? 1627.

Attorney General Sir Robt. Heath to Sir George Yeardley the Governor and the Council and Burgesses in Virginia. Since the King's letters he writes by his Maj. further directions these in-

structions following concerning tobacco:—none to be shipped but such as by the oath of sufficient men appointed Tryers, be good and merchantable—to be consigned to the Lord Treasurer, Chancellor of the Excheq'r or Attorney General and landed in the port of London—that for the years to come each plant, throughout the whole Country be set four foot asunder and no plant to have above six leaves on a plant, and that upon such penalty as no man shall dare to break—the stalks of the tobacco to be taken out that the King may have ware and not stalks for his money which doth discredit the tobacco. That the quantity may be moderated, the Governor & Council proportion it so, that no Master of a family be allowed to plant for above 200 of tobacco and no servant above 125—the same rules are also prescribed for the Somers Islands—Also directions for iron, salt, pitch & tar, pipestaves, Potashes & rich mines.

Certified Copy by Robt. Barrington, Cler. 2 pp.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 33.)

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GOVERNOR WEST AND COUNCIL TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

(Abstract.)

James City, Dec. 20, 1627.

Governor Francis West and the Council of Virginia to the Lords of the Privy Council.

Upon so great an alteration happening in this Colony as the death of the Governor Sir George Yeardley<sup>4</sup> have thought it their duty to certify the same by the first departure of these ships—Hope that the loss sustained by his decease, as being a main pillar of this their building and therefore a weakening to the whole body, will in good time be repaired, both in full settling of their affairs in many points uncertain and ambiguous and by a

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<sup>4</sup>Sir George Yeardley died in November, 1627. It is known that he was buried at Jamestown, and it has been conjectured that the tomb within the foundations of the old church there, which once contained brasses, was that of Yeardley. The channels in the stone appear to show the helmet and other conventional insignia of a knight. It is hardly probable that a brass was used for memorial purposes in Virginia later than 1650, and Governor Sir George Yeardley is the only person of his rank, who was buried there before 1650.



supply of soldiers or some other means from his Majesty—Have according to his Maj. Instructions elected and chosen Capt. Francis West to succeed the deceased Governor—the present difficulties and doubtful occurrences of the Colony increasing daily upon them add a heavier press unto the burden & charge of the place—the public charges in times of war cannot be defrayed without a greater supply relieving them than their inabilities and fortunes can bear, they therefore desire a favorable construction in the superintending of their affairs. In that one particular of the expulsion of the Savages wherein last summer they had so far endeavoured, even beyond their strength, in a general march upon all their habitations and in cutting down great quantities of their corn as had they not been disabled by a common scarcity of shot, they had brought them to so great a famine & misery as would have much tended to their utter ruin and extirpation—Return their humblest thanks to his Maj. for his gracious inclination to their complaints and petitions against that project or contract upon their tobacco intended last year, And in the fear of succeeding misery solicit their Lordships to be a means to his Maj. that no contract or monopoly be granted upon their tobacco without their consent.

Signed by Frans. West, John Pott, Roger Smyth, Sam. Mathewes, William Claybourne & William Tucker.

2 pp. (*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 34.)

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#### PETITION OF MARMADUKE RAYNER.

(Abstract.)

1627 ?

Petition of Marmaduke Rayner,<sup>5</sup> Mariner to the Lords of the Privy Council. He lately came out of Virginia, master of the *Temperance*—that William Saker owner of said ship, having violently thrust him out, detains not only goods and passengers but letters to their Lordships from the Council of Virginia & other letters and petitioners' accounts—Prays for authority to return aboard said ship that he may deliver out justly to every

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<sup>5</sup> Marmaduke Rayner had made several voyages to Virginia as master of ships, and in 1620 made an exploring expedition to Roanoke.

man his own goods & letters and above all that letter to their Lordships which may concern the present state of the Plantation & that the freight of the goods may remain in the hands of the Customor of Southampton till all the ships company be paid their wages.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 35.)

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PETITION OF SAMUEL SHARPE.

(Abstract.)

1627 ?

Petition of Samuel Sharpe,\* gent, to the Earl of Marlborough, Lord High Treasurer of England.

Has newly arrived with twelve persons out of Virginia in the Temperance and they are desirous to send present supplies in the two ships now bound thither, but by means of a contention between the Owner and the Master cannot be possessors of their tobacco—Prays that present order may be given to said Owner Capt. William Saker to deliver their goods into the hands of his Maj. Customer at Southampton, till they have paid custom and freight.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 4, No. 36.)

[This instalment concludes the publication of documents omitted out of consideration for Mr. Alexander Brown. See this Magazine, XV, 360. There are, however, a number of documents of the years 1626-27, which had previously been printed in this Magazine or elsewhere, and are therefore not now reprinted. The next instalment will again take up the papers of 1640.]

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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\*Samuel Sharpe came to Virginia in the *Seaventure* in 1609 and his wife Elizabeth in the *Margaret and John* in 1621. In 1624 they were living at Persey's Hundred. He was a Burgess for Charles City in the Assembly of 1619, and for the Neck of Land in October, 1625. He was then styled Sergeant Sharpe.